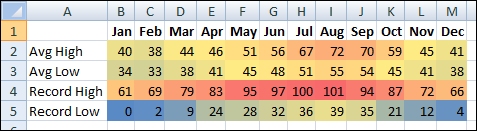
**Quick start: Apply conditional formatting**

By applying conditional formatting to your data, you can quickly identify variances in a range of values with a quick glance.



This graphic shows temperature data with conditional formatting that uses a color scale to differentiate high, medium, and low values. The following procedure uses that data.

**How?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Icon image | **Select the data that you want to conditionally format**  Selected data |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Icon image | **Apply the conditional formatting**   1. On the **Home** tab, in the **Styles** group, click the arrow next to **Conditional Formatting**, and then click **Color Scales**. Color Scales for Conditional Formatting 2. Hover over the color scale icons to see a preview of the data with conditional formatting applied.   In a three-color scale, the top color represents higher values, the middle color represents medium values, and the bottom color represents lower values. This example uses the Red-Yellow-Blue color scale. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Icon image | **Experiment with the conditional formatting**  On the **Home** tab, in the **Styles** group, click the arrow next to **Conditional Formatting**, and then experiment with the available styles.  Conditional formatting styles |

Next steps

* Watch a video to see conditional formatting in action: [Video: Apply conditional formatting](http://support.office.microsoft.com/client/Video-Apply-conditional-formatting-f72dd508-6d88-4218-bf74-cee95b42ecb6)
* After you have applied a style, select your data, click **Conditional Formatting** on the ribbon, and then click **Manage Rules** to manually fine-tune your rules and formatting.